

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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NEWS ADVISORY
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**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th IS NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION
DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY**

*Turn your unwanted pills into power and safely dispose of them in boxes placed at police stations around
Plymouth County where they will then be burned and turned into renewable energy*

BROCKTON – Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz is reminding residents to safely recycle their expired and unwanted medications at drop boxes in police stations around the county as part of Plymouth County's Prescription Drug Take Back Program.

"With the opioid drug problem at epidemic levels, as individuals, we need to do whatever it takes to help alleviate the problem," DA Cruz said. "Taking a few minutes to clean out your medicine cabinet could mean eliminating the risk of drug theft or abuse from your home."

Tomorrow, September 26th is the 10th annual National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, sponsored by the DEA. In 2013, DA Cruz and Plymouth County Sheriff Joseph McDonald announced the local Plymouth County Drug Take Back Program. Partnered with Covanta Energy's Rx4Safety Program, the boxes were placed in police stations around Plymouth County. Residents are asked to dispose of their unwanted or expired medications into boxes located inside participating police departments, which are under 24-hour surveillance. Police inventory and log the contents of the disposal box and the drugs are transported to Covanta Energy's incinerator in Plymouth where they are destroyed and turned into renewable energy. The energy from these waste facilities provide safe, environmentally sound destruction that protects water supplies from disposing of medications down drains.

Drug return boxes are located at the following police stations: Abington, Bridgewater, Carver, Duxbury, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Hull, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Mattapoisett, Middleboro, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Rochester, Rockland, Scituate, Wareham, West Bridgewater and Whitman. People in towns without return boxes can return medications to any surrounding participating towns. All drops are completely anonymous.

Medications accepted are pills, capsules, patches, prescription medications and ointments and medicines in leak-proof, unbreakable containers. Over-the-counter medications, vitamins and pets medicines are also accepted. No needles will be accepted. ###